

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 1253

April 1, 2015

SUMMARY OF BILL: Extends voter registration period to 15 days before an election, rather than 30 days before an election.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures –

Exceeds \$60,500/FY15-16

Exceeds \$50,000/FY19-20 and Every Four Years Thereafter

Increase Local Expenditures – Exceeds \$50,000*

Assumptions:

- The state is statutorily required to fund Presidential Preference Primary elections.
- The Department of State (SOS) reports the extension of the registration deadline would overlap into the early voting period, as well as the preparation period prior to the first day of early voting; therefore, many counties would hire additional staff or pay overtime to complete the registration process during this timeframe.
- Based on information provided by SOS, the increase in expenditures for additional staffing requirements are reasonable estimated to exceed \$50,000 per election.
- SOS reports voter registration applications would have to be reprinted in FY15-16. The one-time increase in state expenditures to reprint voter registration applications is estimated to be \$10,500.
- The total increase in state expenditures for FY15-16 is estimated to exceed \$60,500 (\$50,000 + \$10,500).
- The increase in state expenditures in FY19-20 and every four years thereafter due to a Presidential Preference Primary election is estimated to exceed \$50,000.
- The cost of all other elections (excluding the Presidential Preference Primary) is borne by local government. The recurring and mandatory increase in local expenditures to comply with its requirements is estimated to exceed \$50,000 per election.

**Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

SB 1253

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Jeffrey L. Spalding". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jeffrey" and last name "Spalding" clearly legible.

Jeffrey L. Spalding, Executive Director

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